

JURY POOL NEWS

A NEW YORK STATE UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTING THE LATEST COURT INITIATIVES AND RELATED NEWS

JURORS' BOOK DONATIONS HELP PROMOTE CHILDREN'S LOVE OF READING

ALL YOUNGSTERS VISITING THE MONROE COUNTY FAMILY COURT CHILDREN'S CENTER at Rochester's Hall of Justice can now go home with a book to call their own, thanks in large part to the generosity of local jurors. Monroe County Commissioner of Jurors Charles Perreaud has been leading the initiative, inviting jurors to bring in new or gently used age-appropriate books to donate to the center, one of a statewide network of on-site facilities where children can stay while their parents are in court.

"There is a genuine desire on the part of most to be charitable or helpful if they can see their efforts go to a specific need ... Our offering a place and an opportunity to bring books is simply a way to facilitate serving the courts and the community," says Commissioner Perreaud, explaining how the initiative came about.

"The children love the books. They pick them out while they are at the center and read them with our staff," says Dr. Wendy

Nilsen, an assistant professor of psychiatry and director of the children's center, which each year serves some 3,000 children, mostly preschoolers from at-risk families. "Children that like to read are more likely to do well in school. We know that socially and financially disadvantaged families are less likely to have

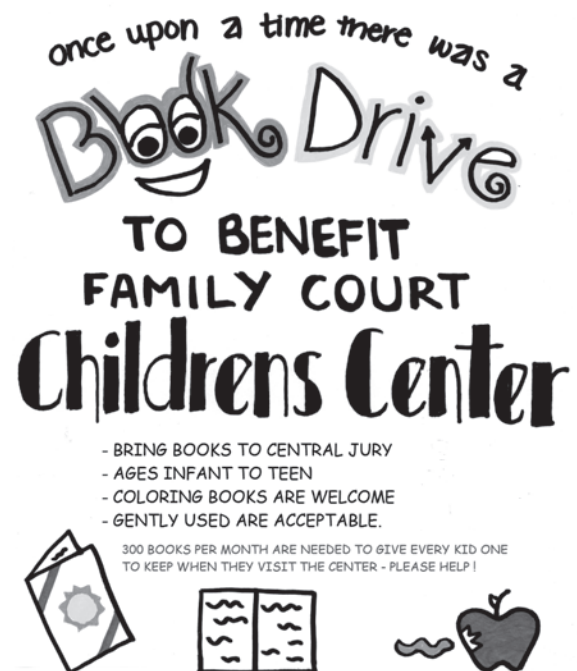
"The children love the books. They pick them out while they are at the center and read them with our staff."

books for their young children, so our contribution may be the first pre-reader that there is in the home."

While the center receives contributions from other sources, it was often coming up short of the 300 titles a month needed for each child to leave with a book of their own until Monroe County jurors began dropping off their book donations at the courthouse last summer, when Commission Perreaud first announced the initiative.

The commissioner's 16-year-old daughter Carly even designed a poster (shown here) for the jury assembly room, publicizing the center's need for book donations. The poster sits atop a cart where jurors can leave the books before they're wheeled off to the children's center, which is located on another floor of the courthouse.

Juror Diane Perry was cleaning out her basement and found some children's books, which she donated to the center. "I'm a big reader, and I think it's important to read to our children. I used to read to mine every night," said Ms. Perry, who plans to bring in more books for the center.



Dr. Nilsen reports that jurors have donated hundreds of books since Commissioner Perreaud launched the literacy effort. According to Dr. Nilsen, one book per child goes a long way in bringing joy and knowledge to these youngsters and their families. "Other children can read the book. Parents can read it to their children. In short, a love of reading can be kindled," she says, adding, "Because the books are developmentally appropriate, even semi-literate parents can enjoy a book with their young child." ■

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Those interested in donating age-appropriate books to the Monroe County Family Court's children's center may contact Commissioner Perreaud at cperreau@courts.state.ny.us or (585) 428-2024.

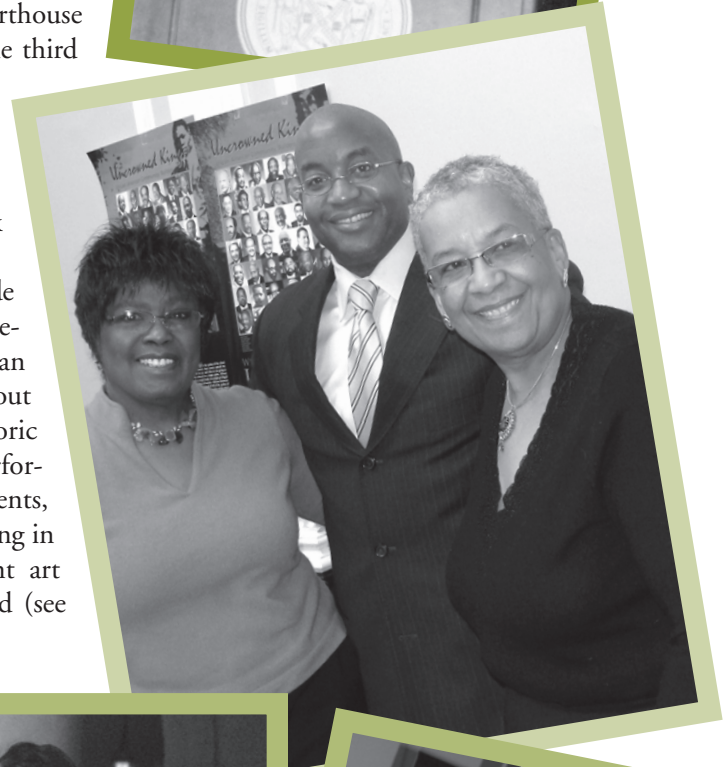
IN CELEBRATION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

ESSENCE MAGAZINE EDITOR EMERITA SUSAN L. TAYLOR, the only black female to receive the prestigious Henry Johnson Fisher award from the Magazine Publishers of America, paid tribute to those African Americans “who came before us, sacrificed and struggled to pave the way” at a Manhattan Supreme Court Black History Month celebration last February. A Harlem native and founder of Essence Cares—a massive campaign to recruit one million adults as mentors to at-risk youngsters—Ms. Taylor also called on audience members to harness their energy to help improve schools in underserved areas, end the violence in minority communities and reduce the disproportionate number of minorities in our prisons.

The event was sponsored by the court system's Tribune Society and the Judicial Friends Foundation,

which work to promote diversity and racial equality in our courts, with the Tribune Society honoring Ms. Taylor with its distinguished service award. The Manhattan courthouse was also the site of the third annual Dance Theater of Harlem's Dancing through the Barriers Ensemble performance commemorating Black History Month.

Courthouses statewide celebrated the achievements of African Americans throughout February with historic displays, musical performances and other events, including a book-signing in Buffalo and a student art exhibit in Long Island (see photos). ■



Top to bottom: Susan L. Taylor at Manhattan Supreme Court; Buffalo City Court Judge Craig Hannah flanked by Peggy Brooks-Bertram and Barbara Seals Nevergold—authors of “Uncrowned Queens: African American Women Community Builders of Western New York”—at the book-signing event; one of the artworks from the Suffolk County courts' student display; a member of the Dance Theater of Harlem ensemble performing at Manhattan Supreme Court.

CONFERENCE OF CHIEF JUSTICES RESOLUTION ADDRESSES NEW YORK'S JUDICIAL PAY CRISIS

The Conference of Chief Justices recently adopted a resolution supporting pay raises for New York state judges and Chief Judge Judith Kaye's efforts to resolve the state's ongoing judicial salary crisis, now in its tenth year.

Addressing the need for adequate compensation for judges nationwide, the Conference of Chief Justices resolution calls particular attention to New York's judicial pay freeze, underscoring the urgency for judicial salary reform. Of the 50 states, New York has gone the longest without a judicial pay increase and now ranks 49th in the nation when adjusted for the state's cost of living.



CHIEF JUDGE JUDITH KAYE

Since the last pay increase for New York state judges in 1999, the state's cost of living has risen by 30 percent. In that time, trial judges in the other 49 states have received pay increases averaging 3.2 percent a year, a cumulative increase of more than 27 percent.

"This message of support is particularly significant, coming as it does from our nation's top judges," said Judge Kaye, who along with her proposal for a cost-of-living adjustment for New York state judges has called for the creation of a broad-based

commission to periodically study and set salary increases for judges and other high-level state officials to make the process more transparent and accountable. "Judicial leaders from across the country recognize that our courts are seriously imperiled by the long-standing failure to provide fair compensation for our judges. We share the concern of the nation's chief justices that continued inad-

equate pay will discourage the best legal talent from seeking the bench and dissuade the most seasoned, experienced judges from remaining there. To maintain the highest quality of justice in New York's courts, our judges must receive the raises they have long deserved. I extend thanks to the Conference of Chief Justices and all of its members for their support during this tremendously difficult time."

Since the last pay increase for New York state judges in 1999, the state's cost of living has risen by 30 percent. In that time, trial judges in the other 49 states have received pay increases averaging 3.2 percent a year, a cumulative increase of more than 27 percent. A New York state judge serving since 1995 has received only one pay increase in nearly 13 years, while a judge serving since 1988 has received just two pay increases in nearly two decades.

Members of the Conference of Chief Justices include the highest judicial officer of each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the territories of American Samoa, Guam and the Virgin Islands. The Conference of Chief Justices' resolution can be viewed at: www.nycourts.gov/whatsnew.■

INTERESTED IN SHARING YOUR JURY EXPERIENCE WITH OUR READERS?

We'd like to hear from you. We also welcome any comments about the newsletter as well as story ideas for future issues.

Please send juror anecdotes, newsletter suggestions and story ideas to:

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PILOT “ATTENDANCE COURTS” HELP YOUNGSTERS MAKE THE GRADE

Eleven-year-old Anthony* was absent from school some 25 percent of the time during this fall semester. By mid-December, though, his attendance rate jumped to 97 percent, with the seventh-grader making up most of the school work he missed in those first three months. Anthony's accomplishments can be traced to his recent participation in “attendance court,” a pilot program run by the Center for Courts and the Community, which seeks to expand the judiciary's outreach to youth and educators, in partnership with the Harlem Community Justice Center and Anthony's nearby middle school.

Services Tailored to Each Student and Family

“We were looking for a way to expand the toolbox schools have to respond when students develop patterns of unexcused absences,” says Jacqueline Sherman, director of the Center for Courts and the Community, discussing the program's origins. “Our aim is to help struggling students and their families by providing support in situations where unexcused absences have begun to raise serious concerns, but before they rise to a level that requires formal court action.”

The East Harlem pilot, launched along with a similar one in Red Hook, Brooklyn, is based on a model first introduced to New York State in Buffalo. These courts examine the root causes of a student's truancy. In Anthony's case, his family was facing the possibility of eviction, having fallen six months behind on their rent. Anthony missed school several times to accompany his mother to housing court. According to Anthony's mom, her son lacked a strong relationship with his father and was in need of a positive male role model. The attendance court staff referred the family to the Harlem Community Justice Center's housing resource center, where they received assistance in developing a plan to pay the overdue rent, also introducing Anthony to a local Big Brothers program in his search for a mentor.

Here's how these pilot courts work: students identified by their school as having a chronic attendance problem receive basic information and an opportunity to learn more about the program. While the program is voluntary, students and their parents must sign a contract when they agree to participate. A service plan is developed and the court's hearing officer—a retired judge or justice system professional—meets at the school regularly with the student, parent, teachers, school administrators and other key players to monitor the student's progress and discuss ways to resolve

attendance problems and enhance school performance. Service plans are tailored to each family and can incorporate a range of assistance, from parenting skills classes and mediation to tutoring and mentor programs.

Christopher Watler, the project director of the Harlem Community Justice Center, has served as the hearing officer in the East Harlem pilot since November. “We get teacher reports, so if kids miss homework or are misbehaving we address those issues. I'll see the teachers' observations, talk with the families. Sometimes these youngsters are unaware of how many absences or instances of lateness have actually accrued,” says Mr. Watler, describing the hearings. “Most of the parents want their children to attend school and succeed but are overwhelmed by their life responsibilities. A lot of this is about poverty and how it robs families of the ability to have a middle-class existence.”

Boosting Spirits and Self-Confidence

Beyond teaching these youngsters how to stick to a routine and attend school regularly, the program looks to inspire and otherwise motivate students to succeed. In this vein, Harlem Community Justice Center Judge Ruben Martino recently addressed the students and their families. “I told them how poor attendance can lead to other things, about the link between juvenile delinquency and poor school attitude and performance, and how they have control over their destiny and can turn things around,” recounts the judge.

Since enrolling in the Harlem attendance court, E.J.* has come to realize he has the ability to carve out a better future for himself, with the seventh-grader adopting a more positive attitude, in turn improving both his attendance and grades. “They give you things to do, get you involved in activities,” says this now-aspiring chef, describing how attendance court helped get him get on the right track.

While participants of the court like E.J. and Anthony are making great strides, the program also seems to benefit their classmates, notes Christopher Watler, reporting that the principal recently told him overall attendance is up at the school. Adds Mr. Watler, “You can't talk to every student about getting to school on time but if they can get that message from their peers, I think it's very important.” ■

** Student's name has been changed to protect privacy*

Online requests for additional information about attendance courts may be sent to info@courtsandcommunity.org.

NEW YORK CITY GATHERING ENLIGHTENS STUDENTS ABOUT COURT OPERATIONS, CAREERS

One of five siblings in a single-parent household, Guyana native Pam Jackman Brown was a painfully shy school-girl. Today a confident speaker and supervising judge of New York City Housing Court, Judge Jackson Brown was part of a distinguished panel who shared their personal stories with high school and college students at a recent leadership forum in Manhattan, the second in a series of such gatherings sponsored by the New York state courts' Office of Public Affairs.

"I took one course that opened my eyes—speech class," Judge Jackman Brown told an intent audience, some aspiring attorneys and judges. "When I realized I had a voice and could speak ... it changed my life." The judge also related how she carried a full course load as an undergraduate while juggling morning and evening shifts at a fast-food restaurant. Following graduation, she took and passed a civil service exam, landing a secretarial position, with her boss encouraging her to go to law school.

"Make friends, keep contacts and have role models, positive and negative," Judge Jackman Brown said, also urging the students to do volunteer work as they explore their career options. Asked what she would advise those confused about which career path to follow, the judge replied, "Education gives you a window of opportunity. You have to diversify, be able to multitask and be multiskilled."

Panelists Trace Own Paths, Shed Light on Day-to-Day Challenges

Like Judge Jackman Brown, forum participant Judge Ruben Martino comes from what he referred to as "very humble beginnings." "My parents were very poor. My mom didn't finish school, but always pushed me to go to school," he said. A psychology major whose original ambition was to be a teacher, Judge Martino decided to embark on a different path when he realized he could also make a beneficial impact on society via the law.

On a typical day, Judge Martino, who presides over a multi-jurisdictional community court in Harlem, handles between 10 and 80 cases, with matters ranging from housing disputes to juvenile delinquency, he told the students. "We have a lot of self-represented litigants. Those who are represented by an attorney always have an advantage. How do you balance that?" he pondered, discussing some of the challenges faced by judges today. Judge Martino added that he asks critical questions of those who come before him in making the fairest possible determination.

Opening Students' Eyes to a Range of Options

With the audience comprising students with an interest in various court operations and careers, the court system's chief of security, Jewel Williams, spoke about some of the duties performed by the New York state judiciary's court officer corps.

"We have 4,000 officers from Buffalo to Suffolk County. The job has changed tremendously over the years. It's an expanding horizon, even more so since 9/11," said Chief Williams, a Bronx native and former secretary. "We ensure the safety of those individuals who come to our facilities. We are an information system. Our people in uniform provide general information to the public. We're impartial observers of the courts, ensuring the court atmosphere is fair and impartial to all sides."

Chief Williams also said that court officers must pass a civil service exam and successfully complete a rigorous 14-week training program, among other requirements, noting that there is no age limit for applying. She then introduced the students to several court officers, among them Major Jose Rodriguez, currently stationed at the Bronx County Supreme Courthouse. "This job is not just security, but illness and safety. Some of our officers are emergency medical technicians. We now have mobile patrols and a SWAT team. We take pride in what we do," said the major.

Dan Weitz, an attorney-mediator and deputy director of the court system's Division of Court Operations, discussed the expanding field of mediation as well as the court-affiliated conflict resolution programs his office oversees. "What I do is help people turn conflict into some kind of opportunity. If you can't reach an agreement you can let the court decide, but as a court system we want to provide alternatives," he said, adding that unlike litigation, mediation gives each side decision-making power. "Hopefully, that allows judges like we have here today more time for cases that can't be resolved through conflict resolution."

Coordinator of Court Interpreting Services Sandra Bryan informed the students about the services available to non-



Leadership Forum participants (seated, left to right): Sandra Bryan, Judge Ruben Martino, Dan Weitz, Jewel Williams, Judge Pam Jackman Brown; (standing) Office of Public Affairs Director Gregory Murray.

NEW PROGRAM OFFERS LAY

GUARDIANSHIP 101: KEY STEPS IN THE PROCESS

- If a person is incapable of managing his or her own affairs due to a mental or physical disability, the court may appoint a guardian to act as surrogate decision-maker in accordance with Article 81 of the New York State Mental Hygiene Law. The person to start guardianship proceedings is called the petitioner and can be a relative or friend of the vulnerable person or an institution such as a hospital, nursing home or services agency.
- Once a petition is filed with the court, a court evaluator is appointed. The court evaluator may be a lawyer, psychologist, social worker or other professional with expertise in guardianship matters. Court evaluators act as independent investigators—the “eyes and ears of the court”—gathering information and submitting a written report to the court with recommendations regarding the nature and extent of the allegedly incapacitated person's disability and personal care and property management needs.
- Following the court evaluator's report, a court hearing is held so that the judge can hear testimony from the different experts and anyone else asked to provide information about the allegedly incapacitated person (AIP). The AIP is sometimes represented by an attorney, who may present witnesses to provide testimony that is different from that of the petitioner. Often the AIP is present to express his or her own views about having a guardian.
- The court evaluator makes a recommendation to the judge as to whether or not a guardian should be

WHEN HER BROTHER SANK INTO A SEVERE DEPRESSION AND COULD NO LONGER TAKE CARE OF HIMSELF, Gloria*, hoping to ensure that his personal care and finances would be looked after properly, became his legal guardian—someone appointed by a judge to make decisions affecting the personal care, finances or both of an individual who is unable to do so because of a mental or other disability. Overwhelmed by all the complexities and paperwork involved in the guardianship process, Gloria was ready to give up before finding help at the Guardianship Assistance Network (GAN) at Kings County's Supreme Court.

“I couldn't have done it without them,” says Gloria, now her brother's legal guardian for almost two years, crediting GAN with everything from clarifying her role as guardian to guiding her through the preparation of the detailed reports guardians must periodically submit for the court's review. Gloria adds that the network's support enabled her to carry out her guardianship duties even after a string of personal tragedies, including the recent passing of her husband.

Customized Support

Launched as a pilot program by the not-for-profit Vera Institute of Justice, the network provides ongoing help to “lay guardians,” non-lawyers like Gloria acting as surrogate decision-makers for an incapacitated relative or friend. “GAN's role is unofficial. We don't ensure compliance with court requirements but help out if there are some issues. Our range of services varies, and we're able to tailor it. Most often, judges and court personnel refer people to the program, though sometimes people just walk in,” explains social worker and GAN director Janet Lessem.

Even though most of these individuals are represented by attorneys until being appointed guardians by the court, they still experience confusion due to the nature of the process, Ms. Lessem points out, adding that many are frustrated by the gap between the court hearing—during which testimony about the allegedly incapacitated person is presented in determining whether or not a guardian should be appointed—and the signing of the court order. “The lawyer generally drafts the order and then it goes back and forth between the court until everything is right. Many people can't understand why it's taking so long,” she says.

Of navigating the guardianship process, GAN coordinator Julia Spring, who's trained as both a lawyer and social worker, adds, “It's not exactly like the IRS but it's complicated law and procedure ... and the concept of keeping receipts for all expenditures, that even if you're guardian of your spouse you now have to have separate bank accounts, runs counter to what is natural in taking care of a loved one.”

Another difficulty for many is preparing the initial report that must be submitted to the court within their first 90 days of officially serving as guardian. This report provides an overview of the incapacitated person's situation at the beginning of the guardianship and must be filed in a format approved by the court. Subsequent reports must be filed annually, updating the court on how the incapacitated person (IP) or “ward” is faring and how the guardian is managing the IP's needs and funds.

“Most of our clients come in needing help with a report, but we find there is more to the situation,” notes GAN staffer Kiana Douglas, recounting, “One IP who lived with the guardian became violent, so the guardian had to figure out an arrangement that was safe for her and the IP and get the judge's decision on it.”

GUARDIANS ONGOING HELP

Training Tailored to the Lay Guardian

In addition to such individualized help, the network offers court-approved training to lay guardians as mandated by law. “We’re now up to six training sessions per year and open to guardians in other boroughs, though we do give preference to lay guardians in Kings County. So far, though, we haven’t had to turn anyone away,” says Ms. Lessem.

About 40 people of varying ages and backgrounds attended a recent lay guardianship class taught by the network, with retired GAN coordinator Sia Arnason on hand to explain the purpose as well as some of the requirements of the New York State Mental Hygiene Law, Article 81, the statute regulating the guardianship process.

Ms. Arnason said a wide range of people are being cared for under Article 81, with the statute’s goal to “preserve the dignity and rights of the incapacitated person.” “The law intends for you to make decisions in the least restrictive manner,” she emphasized, later adding, “The law is there to safeguard that the incapacitated person is well cared for.”

With most newly appointed lay guardians hearing certain legal and medical terms for the first time, Julia Spring explained the dual meaning of the word “commission,” as it pertains to guardianship. “All guardians must get a guardianship commission, the legal document that certifies you can act as guardian,” she told the class, referring to it as “your passport to be a guardian.” “In addition, some guardians are paid for their services, and that payment is also called a commission.”

Guiding attendees through some of the guardianship start-up procedures, Ms. Spring advised those responsible for the personal care needs of an incapacitated person that they should check whether their wards are eligible to apply for additional government benefits and if so to apply for them. She also presented tips relating to the duties of guardians responsible for managing property and other assets, such as opening a new guardianship bank account and closing all old accounts.

The three-hour session also included discussion about the kinds of decisions and purchases guardians can and can’t make, the expenses for which they may be reimbursed, and the court’s record-keeping and filing requirements for guardianship cases, among other topics.

“Informative and detailed” is how Dee*, guardian to an elderly friend, sums up the GAN training class she attended. Dee says she “fell into her guardianship” after becoming concerned about a long-time acquaintance, “a charming old lady” who wasn’t getting the proper nursing home care under her former guardian, a social services agency. Learning that this woman had been disowned by most of her family because she is gay, Dee was determined to step in to make her friend’s final years as comfortable as possible, starting the appeals process to become her new guardian.

Eventually referred to GAN, Dee met with Julia Spring. “I took the initial steps, but GAN helped me tremendously with all the things I needed to meet the various legal requirements,” says Dee, whose friend’s condition has improved considerably since she took over the guardianship. “I would never have been able to get the paperwork in order without Janet [Lessem] and Julia’s help. They helped me save my friend’s life.” ■

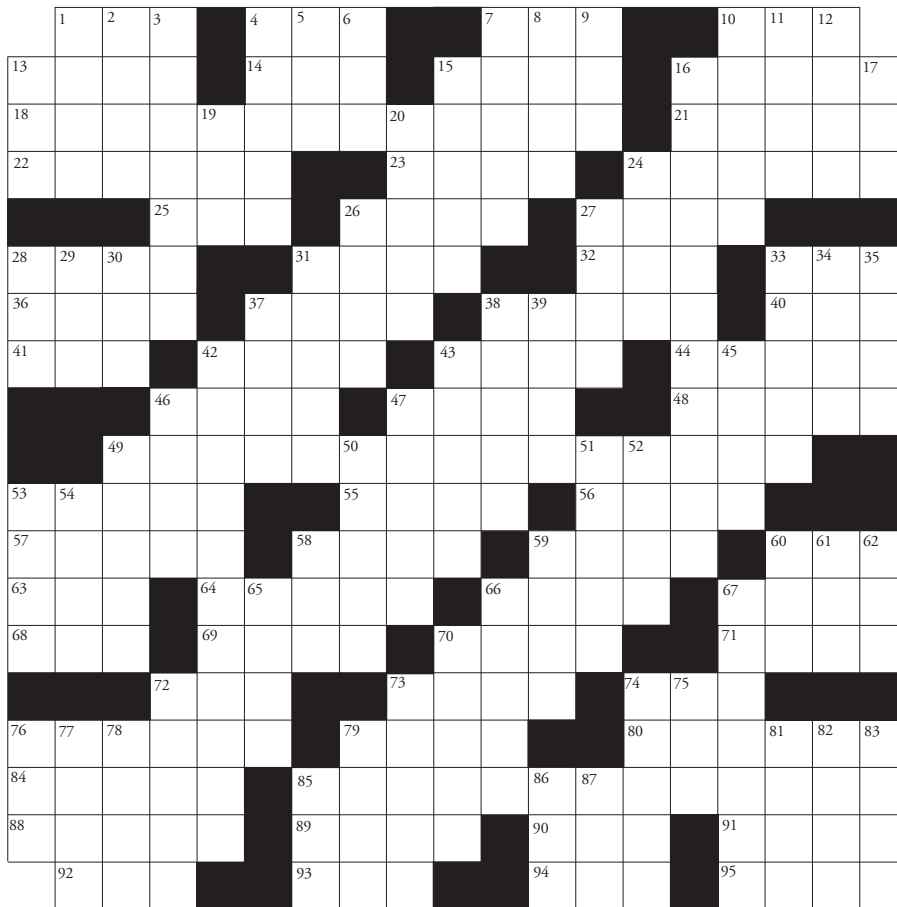
**Only the first name has been used to protect the privacy of the guardian and her ward*

appointed. The judge makes a decision based on the testimony and court evaluator’s report. As guardianship is considered a remedy of last resort, the court seeks to impose the least restrictive form of intervention, limiting the guardian’s authority to the minimum required to meet the personal care and/or financial management needs of the incapacitated person (IP).

- After the hearing there are steps, such as filing an oath to faithfully take care of the IP and sometimes getting a bond, that must be taken before obtaining the guardianship commission—the document referred to as the “passport to guardianship”—and being able to act officially as guardian.
- Guardians must take training and submit a report to the court within the first 90 days of their official service. This report allows the court to assess the IP’s situation and make changes in the guardian’s powers, if necessary. Guardians must file subsequent reports annually, providing the court with information on the IP’s status. Guardians with financial management responsibilities must provide the court a detailed accounting of the IP’s finances and property. These reports are reviewed by a fiduciary called a court examiner who may request additional information and also has the authority to ask that the court remove a guardian or impose other sanctions if the guardian is not properly carrying out his or her duties.
- A final accounting is required if the IP dies or the guardianship is ended for another reason, such as the IP’s condition improving to the point that the guardian is no longer needed.

For more information on the network and the lay guardianship process, log on to www.vera.org/GAN.

C O U R T S I D E C R O S S W O R D



ACROSS

1. That girl
4. Trash holder
7. Score high
10. Word for Scrooge
13. International alliance: abbr.
14. Spanish cheer
15. Check the want ads
16. French capital
18. What you need to make an arrest: 2 words
21. Overweight
22. Impressionist painter
23. Ceremonial act
24. I beg you
25. ___-la-la

26. Determine judicially
27. Yank
28. Against
31. Overacts
32. Ambulance crew member
33. Viper
36. Powder ingredient
37. Caustic remark
38. Talk show icon
40. Personal account
41. And so forth: abbr.
42. Got up
43. Stage item
44. Run off to wed
46. Strap
47. Vowel sequence preceding "u"

48. Fight, medieval style
49. Disobeying a judge's order: 3 words
53. Unaccompanied
55. Ireland, poetically
56. Former Italian currency: plural
57. Essence
58. Storyline
59. Skeleton-like
60. Sir McKellen
63. Prohibit
64. Shallot
66. Elephant feature
67. Aria, e.g.
68. Harris and Asner
69. High-schooler; typically
70. 2007 Nobel

71. Give up
72. By way of
73. "The Ghost and Mrs. ___"
74. Columbus campus: abbr.
76. Legal warning
79. It's bail or this
80. Weakness
84. Museum collection, perhaps: 2 words
85. In a civil case, it rests with the plaintiff: 3 words
88. Nervous
89. Buffalo's county
90. Anger
91. Barbecue utensil
92. Gidget actress
93. Word with "lid"
94. Part of MPH
95. French abbreviation for holy one

DOWN

1. Rabbit
2. English school
3. Mechanical
4. See 33-Across
5. Everyone
6. Marriage announcement word
7. Critical
8. Judge's concern
9. Compass point
10. Noise
11. Region
12. Sound of 4-Down
13. Nonprofit media group: abbr.
15. Takes a yacht
16. The defense may do this post-verdict: 3 words
17. Observe
19. Atmosphere
20. Morsel
24. Cougar
26. Unusual
27. Criminal, for short
28. Had dinner

29. King Cole, of music fame
30. An effective tonic, usually: abbr.
31. It makes waste
33. Approximately
34. Uses a straw
35. Langston Hughes, e.g.
37. Lightning stroke
38. Mythological hunter
39. Expression of disdain
42. Broker a deal anew
43. With 79-Down, a verdict-deciding panel
45. Legend
46. Former German capital
47. Chef's accessory
49. Loose change
50. Cantaloupe
51. Near
52. Pig's sound
53. Title for a French clergy member
54. Conduct
58. Dessert choice
59. Aaron or Raymond
60. Debt
61. Boxing legend
62. Negative
65. Like Felix Unger
66. Curtain fabric
67. Shoots a water gun
70. Be a mentor to
72. Product of 35-Down
73. An Osmond
74. Proposal
75. Soak
76. Bed
77. Mimicked
78. It shows wind direction
79. See 43-Down
81. Italy's shape
82. Solitary
83. Alphabetical sequence
85. Spelling contest
86. Bite
87. Mineral source

STUMPED? CHECK OUT [HTTP://SOLUTION.NYJUROR.GOV](http://solution.nyjuror.gov) FOR SOLUTION TO PUZZLE

continued from page 5 "Leadership Forum"

English-speaking defendants and others who use the courts, encouraging those with a flair for foreign languages to consider a court interpreting career. "Court interpreting is a field that is opening. We really need interpreters in a variety of languages," she said, explaining that interpreters are called on to provide

services in a range of proceedings, from criminal to family court matters.

Following the discussion, many students stopped to speak with the presenters. One of them was Mark Bradshaw, a Hostos Community College student and former paralegal with hopes of attending law school. Calling the forum informative and insightful, Mr.

Bradshaw added, "Up until now I hadn't given much thought to a judgeship, but hearing Judge Jackman Brown inspired me." ■

E-mail inquiries regarding the court system's Leadership Forum series and other educational programs may be sent to OPAoutreach@courts.state.ny.us.